

**FRA Notice on Replacement of Blood Tubes in
Post-Accident Alcohol/Drug Testing Tox Boxes
October 30, 2003**

Standard and Fatality Tox Boxes: The blood tubes in FRA's standard post-accident tox boxes expire on December 31, 2003; and the blood tubes in the fatality tox boxes expire in September 2004. FRA's contracted post-accident testing laboratory, NWT in Salt Lake City will distribute replacement blood tubes for both the standard and fatality tox boxes beginning in mid-November 2003. Each railroad must replace the blood tubes in both types of boxes. On the outside of each standard tox box there is an expiration date, but remember this is only for the blood tubes and the rest of the contents are current. However, each railroad may want to check inside its box(s) to make sure the shipping label is for NWT, 1141 E. 3900 S., Ste. A-110, Salt Lake City, UT 84124.

A decision has been made to mail the replacement blood tubes to only one address per railroad and the railroad's Designated Employer Representative will be responsible for distributing and replacing the tubes in each of their boxes. Prior to distribution, each railroad will receive a letter from NWT, asking for assistance in verifying their inventory information, and responding by fax or mail to NWT by November 17.

Fatality Tox Boxes: Only the larger railroads have been distributed "fatality" tox boxes. FRA has established the following procedures for other railroads that have a qualifying post-accident testing event involving a fatality of an on-duty railroad employee/contractor (as a result of the movement of railroad on-track equipment). For such a qualifying event, a railroad should advise the National Response Center at 800-424-8802 that it needs a fatality tox box. Additionally, the railroad must contact FRA at one of the following telephone numbers:

Lamar Allen: 202-493-6313 or (cell) day or night 202-431-9672

Kathy Schnakenberg: 816-561-2714 or (cell) day or night 202-262-4998

FRA will send a fatality tox box overnight to the railroad or coroner's office, or get involved in borrowing one from a neighboring railroad.

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